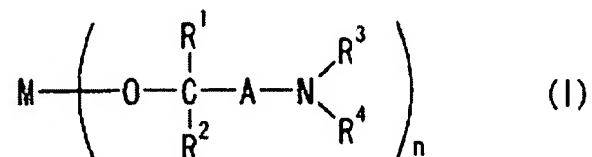


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) An alkoxide compound represented by general formula (I):



wherein one of R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> represents an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and the other represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms; R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> each represent an alkyl group having 1 to 4 carbon atoms; A represents an alkanediyl group having 1 to 8 carbon atoms; M represents an alkanediyl group having 1 to 8 carbon atoms; M represents ~~a silicon atom or a hafnium atom~~; and n represents 4.

2. (original) The alkoxide compound according to claim 1, wherein A in general formula (I) is a methylene group.

3-4. (cancelled)

5. (previously presented) A material for thin film formation comprising the alkoxide compound according to claim 1.

6. (cancelled)

7-8. (cancelled)

9. (previously presented) A material for thin film formation comprising the alkoxide compound according to claim 2.

10-11. (cancelled)

12-14. (cancelled)